

## Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

/060 W

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R 211525Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1425

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O.11652 NA

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TU, CY

SUBJECT: CURRENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

1. THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY REMAINS UNABLE AFTER THREE WEEKS AND THIRTEEN ROUNDS OF BALLOTING TO ELECT A PRESIDING OFFICER, ALTHOUGH IT APPEARS THAT THE GOVERNMENT COALITION PARTIES HAVE MOVED CLOSE TO AGREEMENT ON SUPPORTING THE ELECTION OF INDEPENDENT KEMAL ZIYA OZTURK AS SPEAKER. HOWEVER, NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY (NSP) DEPUTY SENER BATTAL CONTINUED HIS SELF-PROCLAIMED CANDIDACY, BUT ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD WITHDRAW WHENEVER IT BECAME CLEAR THAT A COALITION CANDIDATE COULD BE ELECTED. ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF ITS CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL, THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DECIDED TO MEET EVERY DAY BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 21 UNTIL A SPEAKER IS ELECTED.

2. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS:

A. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN  
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CONVENED IN SOME TIME, CONVENED THREE TIMES DURING THE

WEEK. THE PRESS REPORTS THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS APPROVED 270 DECREES, SOME OF WHICH HAD BEEN PENDING FOR MONTHS.

B. REPUBLICAN RELIANCE PARTY (RR) DEPUTY ORHAN TOKUZ RESIGNED FROM HIS PARTY, THUS LOWERING THE NUMBER OF RR DEPUTIES TO NINE AND ENDING THE PARTY'S RIGHT TO RECOGNITION AS A PARLIAMENTARY GROUP.

C. REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) CHAIRMAN ECEVIT, CRITICIZING PRIMIN DEMIREL ON NOVEMBER 18 FOR CREATING A "PARLIAMENTARY CRISIS," SAID "DEMIREL MAY NOT CARE OR MAY EVEN BE PLEASED BY THE NON-FUNCTIONING OF PARLIAMENT" SINCE WHEN PARLIAMENT IS FUNCTIONING "CERTAIN SUPERVISORY MECHANISMS WHICH HE DISLIKES WILL BE SET IN MOTION." DEMIREL RESPONDED ON NOVEMBER 20 CHARGING "THE RPP HAS DRAWN UP PLANS TO PREVENT PARLIAMENT FROM FUNCTIONING" AND IS THE "SOURCE OF UNREST IN TURKEY... AND THE UMBRELLA FOR EVERY ILLEGALITY."

3. COMMENT:

IF, AS NOW APPEARS LIKELY, A PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS SELECTED IN VIOLATION OF THE "GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT," THE NATIONALIST FRONT COALITION WILL PROBABLY BE SOMEWHAT STRENGTHENED INTERNALLY, BUT THE RPP-LED OPPOSITION WILL BE EMBITTERED AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE EVEN MORE AGGRESSIVELY ANTAGONISTIC TO THE COALITION THAN IT HAS BEEN TO DATE. RECENT PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT RPP DEPUTIES ARE PREPARED TO INTRODUCE A SERIES OF MOTIONS OF CENSURE AGAINST VARIOUS GOVERNMENT MINISTERS AS SOON AS PARLIAMENT RESUMES NORMAL OPERATION. SUCH MOTIONS OF CENSURE WOULD TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER OTHER ASSEMBLY ITEMS; THEREFORE, IF IT SHOULD WISH TO DO SO, THE RPP COULD KEEP THE ASSEMBLY IN A STATE OF CRISIS FOR SEVERAL RE DAYS. IT MIGHT ALSO BE ABLE TO OBSTRUCT THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS IN THE SENATE. IN EITHER CASE, THE GOT PREOCCUPATION WITH THESE DAILY CRISES WOULD BE A CONVENIENT EXCUSE TO AVOID TACKLING THE DIFFICULT ISSUES WHICH WOULD FURTHER STRAIN THE COALITION, I.E. CYPRUS.

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, TU, CY, (OZTURK, KEMAL ZIYA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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